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USIB-M-42

9 June 1959

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

Minutes of
Forty-second Meeting
United States Intelligence Board
USIB Conference Room, Administration Building
Central Intelligence Agency, at 1030, 9 June 1959

Director of Central Intelligence
Allen W. Dulles
Presiding*

Deputy Director (Intelligence), CIA
Robert Amory, Jr.
Presiding*

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. R. Gordon Arneson, acting Director of Intelligence and Research,
Department of State
General Graves B. Erskine, Assistant for Special Operations to the
Secretary of Defense
Major General William W. Quinn, Acting Assistant Chief of Staff for
Intelligence, Department of the Army
Rear Admiral Laurence H. Frost, Assistant Chief of Naval Operations
for Intelligence, Department of the Navy
Major General James H. Walsh, Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence,
United States Air Force
Lieutenant General John A. Samford, Director, National Security Agency
Major General Robert A. Breitweiser, Director for Intelligence,
The Joint Staff
Mr. Harry S. Traynor, Atomic Energy Commission representative
to the USIB
Mr. Ralph R. Roach, acting for Federal Bureau of Investigation
representative to the USIB

*Part of meeting

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1. Executive Session

At the beginning of the meeting Mr. Dulles requested an executive session. During the course of this session the members agreed to prepare a special estimate on certain aspects of the Berlin situation on a crash basis, to be considered at a special Intelligence Board meeting on Thursday, 11 June.

In a review of sensitive situations during this discussion, General Walsh reported on certain phases of Soviet missile activity.

2. NIE 11-2-59

The Soviet Atomic
Energy Program
(Restricted data; available
through JAEIC representatives)

Mr. Dulles suggested, in the light of a request by General Quinn, that no final action be taken on NIE 11-2-59 at this meeting. However, in view of a personal commitment of Admiral Frost, he stated that the Board should review and discuss fully during this meeting those portions of the paper of particular interest to Admiral Frost. The Board concurred in this general course of action.

Prior to the discussion the Air Force presented a special briefing bearing on the Soviet nuclear powered aircraft aspect of the estimate. The members then exchanged views on the paper, including various proposed amendments, and reached tentative agreement on the estimate (specifically excluding, however, Section VIII), with the understanding, as indicated above, that final action would be taken at the next regular meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes
2 June Meeting
(USIB-M-41)

Approved as circulated.

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4. Watch Committee Report
No. 461

Noted.

5. Report of Special Committee
on Berlin Situation

Noted. In this connection, Mr. Amory, who was then presiding, stated that during this period the Berlin Committee should be especially alert and be prepared to meet and deal with matters on an urgent basis, as required.

6. Study on Soviet Electronics
Devices and Systems
(USIB-D-37.1/1, 3 June)

The members agreed to initiate a study projecting Soviet developments in communications and electronics devices and systems during the next ten years, along the lines outlined in USIB-D-37.1/1, 3 June, and the attached draft terms of reference. It was agreed that the Scientific Intelligence Committee would prepare and coordinate this study, and that the target date for Board consideration would be 1 November. In response to a question raised by General Samford, Mr. Amory suggested that the Board should expect to take a type of formal action on the final paper which would maximize its potential impact on consumers (e. g., specifically "approving" rather than "noting" the study). He also noted that it was not anticipated that the Board of National Estimates would participate in the study unless some essential question arose which involved a broader value judgment of Soviet capabilities and intentions rather than a technical analysis (e. g., Soviet intentions with respect to allocation of resources for electronics devices and systems rather than for some competing purpose). General Samford and the members concurred in this general approach as outlined by Mr. Amory.

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7. Annual Report of Committee on
Procurement of Foreign Publications
(USIB-D-40.3/1, 19 May)

The members noted this report, subject to a revision of paragraph II, c, to read as follows:

c. Participation of Non-USIB Members

The three National Libraries of the U. S.: Library of Congress, National Library of Medicine and the Department of Agriculture Library, as well as the National Science Foundation and USIA were invited to participate in PROCIB discussions.

In this connection, the Chairman referred to the excellent collaboration which had been received from non-Intelligence Board agencies in this work, and suggested that the Committee express the appreciation of the Board to those agencies.

8. Release of NIE 63-59
Prospects for North and
South Vietnam
and
NIE 67-59
Cambodia's International
Orientation
(USIB-M-41, item 8;
USIB-D-17.2/27, 3 June)

After discussing this matter the members agreed not to release either of these estimates to any foreign government.

Adjournment: 1230


Executive Secretary

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